



# Coalition to Keep Indiana Warm



Every Hoosier is struggling with energy needs whether it is related to heating their homes or fueling their cars. The cost of energy and how it impacts our everyday lives has been with us for quite some time and there seems to be no end in sight. How do we use energy wisely and how do we teach our children to be conscious of the resources we take for granted that may not always be with us? How do we watch out for our neighbors that may not have resources to stay warm in their homes? How do we keep costs reasonable for every consumer and business?

The Coalition to Keep Indiana Warm (CKIW) strives to keep the dialogue going about energy issues and how to best provide consumer energy education, low-income energy needs, and the impacts of these issues as they relate to government, private companies and low-income advocacy groups. The CKIW engages all that have an interest in working toward the coalition's purpose and goals. Encouraging partnership and cooperation, CKIW, brings together stakeholders to advocate and educate, to find solutions and funding, and to discuss needed legislative or programmatic changes around energy issues.

The CKIW encourages participation from organizations or individuals interested in energy advocacy. New ideas and discussion are always welcome at our meetings. If you have an interest in our goals and purpose then we would encourage you to become an active member. If you are unable to travel to Indianapolis for the meetings then we encourage you to be active within one of our committees. We would be happy to discuss how you can become a part of CKIW.

It does truly take the efforts of many to guarantee that Hoosiers stay warm in their homes and have the security of safe environments for themselves and their children. Let us know how you would like to help and we look forward to your involvement with the CKIW.

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## Attention:

**March 20, 2008**  
**CKIW meeting will**  
**be held at Citizens**  
**Gas**  
**2020 N. Meridian St.,**  
**Indianapolis at 10:00**  
**a.m.**

## **Coalition to Keep Indiana Warm 2008 Meeting Dates**

January 17, 2008  
March 20, 2008  
May 15, 2008  
July 17, 2008  
September 18, 2008  
November 20, 2008

*Purpose: To increase public awareness of low-income energy issues and develop and implement strategies that address these issues through a collaboration of consumers, utilities, service providers and government agencies.*

### ASSISTANCE UPDATE

Through Friday, January 25, 2008, the Energy Assistance Program has assisted 120,118 low-income households. Of those, 38,276 have needed additional crisis assistance plus their regular award to maintain service or guarantee a delivery. \$37,606,405 has been spent on direct heat and electric benefits so far.

The federal LIHEAP contingency release on Jan. 16, 2008 should help us equal or surpass the total number of households served last year, which were 143,583.

## HHS Provides \$450 Million in Energy Assistance to Low-Income Families



HHS Secretary Mike Leavitt today announced the release of \$450 million to help eligible low-income homeowners and renters meet home energy costs. The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funds will provide states, territories, tribal areas and the District of Columbia with heating assistance for the winter months ahead.

[For more info on this story click here](#)

## Duke Energy; Community Action of Indianapolis Weatherize Homes in Plainfield, IN

This past fall, twenty Duke Energy Indiana employees from Plainfield showed their support to Energy Efficiency by "Walking the Talk." Duke Energy Indiana partnered with Community Action of Indianapolis to weatherize 13 homes in the Plainfield area. Employees from marketing and customer service worked with a team leader from Community Action to make a difference in the community. This program reflects Duke's "Save-a-Watt" approach to energy efficiency.

Employees caulked, added plastic to windows, weather-stripped, wrapped water heaters, replaced light bulbs with compact fluorescent lights, installed smoke detectors, and also provided a blanket to each household member. Community Action will also add insulation and other things that may be needed. In addition, Duke's Demand Side Management program provides money for refrigerator replacement, so some customers may also receive a new energy efficient refrigerator.

"This was a wonderful team experience," said Pam Ball, from customer service support. "It gave employees an opportunity to meet several Indiana customers in a manner that showed Duke Energy's commitment to the community."

## Coalition to Keep Indiana Warm

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## No-Cost Low-Cost Tips for Saving Money & Energy

- Turn off everything not in use: lights, TVs, computers, etc.
- Check the furnace or air conditioner (AC) filter each month, and clean or replace it as needed. Dirty filters block air flow through your heating and cooling systems, increasing your energy bill and shortening the equipment's life.

[For more info on this story click here](#)

## House Bill No. 1180

### DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 8-1-2-4.5.

**Synopsis:** Reconnection charges. Provides that the amount charged by a utility, other than a telecommunications provider, to reconnect service may not exceed actual reconnection costs. Permits a utility to require a deposit before reconnecting service. Requires a utility to reconnect service within one calendar day after being requested to reconnect service.

[For more info on this story click here](#)

## NLIEC and NFFN join forces for our biggest annual conference yet!

The National Low Income Energy Consortium and National Fuel Funds Network are pleased to be partners in presenting the **National Energy and Utility Affordability Conference: Mile High Solutions**, which will be held June 16-18, 2008, at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Denver, Colorado.

[For more info on this story click here](#)